

July 8, 2013

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE LIBRARY COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Library Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 8, 2013 at El Retiro Library.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Haussmann, Perkins, Ravine, Sheikh, Wengrow, and Chairperson Sargent.

Absent: Commissioner Ross.

Also Present: City Librarian Theyer, Principal Librarian Wierzbicki, Senior Librarian Ujimori, and Youth Services Librarian Spradlin.

MOTION: Commissioner Haussmann moved to grant Commissioner Ross an excused absence for the July 8, 2013 Commission meeting. Commissioner Perkins seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Perkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Ravine, moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING OF JUNE 10, 2013

MOTION: Commissioner Wengrow moved for the approval of the June 10, 2013 Library Commission meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Perkins seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6A. FRIENDS OF THE TORRANCE LIBRARY

City Librarian Theyer reported that Friends is busy preparing for the July 20 paperback book sale.

6B. YOUTH COUNCIL No report.

6C. EL RETIRO STAFF REPORT

Senior Librarian Ujimori welcomed Commissioners and noted that a staff report was included in agenda materials. She provided an update on branch activities since the Commission's last visit in March 2012, highlighting new directional signage, staffing changes, collection, and programming. She distributed a photograph from a recent sushi making program that had 75 participants.

A brief discussion centered on cancellation of magazine subscriptions and the possibility of providing online issues through Zineo in the future.

Youth Services Librarian Spradlin reported that youth account for 40% of the branch's patron base and noted the growing popularity of the Young Adult collection. He discussed monthly programs that have included cartooning, Buster Balloon, Bubbleology, and Spring garden craft. He stated that utilizing the community room in the park for programs has given them more space.

Responding to Commissioner Wengrow's inquiry, Senior Librarian Ujimori explained that large print materials are typically bestsellers and are selected by reviews and requests.

6D. LITTLE LIBRARIES

City Librarian Theyer provided an update on the Library Spots project to put Little Free Libraries In Pueblo Park and Discovery Park. She explained that the two parks were selected to reach audiences that do not regularly frequent the Library. She stated that the libraries are being painted and decorated by Cultural Services, and that she is recruiting self-reliant volunteers to be caretakers. She noted that Park Services will install them later this month and to expect invitations to opening ceremonies.

In response to Commissioner Perkins' inquiry, she stated that she is purchasing books with grant funds as well as accumulating donations.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7A. OUTREACH REPORT

Commissioner Perkins stated that she attended Councilmember Rhilinger's retirement reception and the Friends Annual meeting.

Commissioner Haussmann stated that she enjoyed Councilmember Rhilinger's retirement reception and a Works In Progress reading.

Commissioner Ravine attended the Harry Turtledove lecture, Movie in the Park, and City Council meeting.

Commissioner Wengrow stated that she enjoyed a storytime with her grandson at El Retiro Library.

Chairperson Sargent stated that she spoke about the Summer Reading Program at the June 11 City Council meeting. She also attended the Adult School graduation, Councilmember Rhilinger's retirement reception, sushi demonstration at El Retiro, and Cultural Arts Foundation gala.

7B. STATE AND CITY BUDGET

City Librarian Theyer noted that her written report and information from CLA was included in agenda materials. She reported that the broadband and literacy programs were not included in the final budget but that there is still interest and support for the programs. She noted that the State Library would receive less Federal funds because it did not meet level of service and because of the sequester.

Commissioner Ravine initiated a brief discussion regarding how the City benefits from new businesses opening on Hawthorne Boulevard.

7C. COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

City Librarian Theyer offered to send Commissioner Haussmann copies of past minutes and annual reports to assist her in preparing the Commission's Annual Report.

8. COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

8A. TORRANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

No report.

8B. EDUCATION AND SCHOOL RELATIONS

Chairperson Sargent stated that Michael Wermers is interested in attending the August Commission meeting to discuss school libraries.

Youth Services Librarian Spradlin discussed schools that he works with and noted that the preschool at Tulita Elementary is El Retiro's most frequent visitor.

8C. LIBRARY CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Ravine discussed plans for the September 22 Gala, the video contest, and August 10 end of summer fair at Torino Plaza.

9. MONTHLY DIVISION REPORT

City Librarian Theyer noted that the Monthly Division Report was included in agenda materials. She discussed El Retiro's closure after Labor Day for ADA renovation, with Southeast closing two or three weeks later.

Responding to Chairperson Sargent's inquiry, City Librarian Theyer stated that Torrance Library was selected as a pilot library for California for the Edge Initiative to develop a new technology plan.

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10A. The Commission welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Asam Sheikh.

10B. Cultural Arts Commissioner Kathryn Endo-Roberts thanked the Commission for its continued support of the arts. She asked for Commissioners' assistance in seeking nominations for the Literary Arts category for the Excellence in Arts Awards.

10C. City Librarian Theyer distributed "Can Libraries Survive the E-Book Revolution?"

10D. Commissioner Haussmann distributed "Librarians Rock the Dance Floor" regarding a book cart drill team competition in Anaheim.

10E. Chairperson Sargent announced a July 17 Miracle of Living lecture and that she and her husband are being recognized at the July 23 City Council meeting for their dedication to the community.

10F. Chairperson Sargent requested an excused absence for the August 12 Commission meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Perkins moved to grant Chairperson Sargent an excused absence for the August 12, 2013 Commission meeting. Commissioner Ravine seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

11. ITEMS FOR NEXT LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING

Items for the August 12, 2013 Library Commission meeting agenda were listed and include: Friends, liaison and outreach reports, CLA Convention, Michael Wermers visit, Annual Report, talking points update, podcasting, and Commissioner addresses update.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:52 p.m., Commissioner Perkins moved to adjourn the meeting to August 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Katy Geissert Civic Center Library. Commissioner Ravine seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Sargent so ordered.

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Approved as submitted August 12, 2013 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk (ep)
